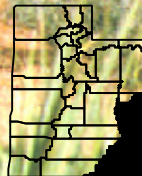


Utah State Water Plan

SOUTHEAST COLORADO RIVER BASIN

Division of Water Resources
October 2000



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Water Resources

Utah State Water Plan - Southeast Colorado River Basin

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Utah State Water Plan Southeast Colorado River Basin

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Section 1

Southeast Colorado River Basin

Utah State Water Plan

Foreword

The *Utah State Water Plan* (1990)¹⁶ was prepared to provide a foundation for establishment of state water policy. Within the framework of water policy planning, the state meets its obligation to plan and implement programs to best serve the needs of the people.

In addition to the Utah State Water Plan, more detailed plans have been published for the Bear River, Cedar/Beaver, Jordan River, Kanab Creek/Virgin River, Sevier River, Uintah Basin, Utah Lake and Weber River hydrologic basins. The West Colorado River Basin and West Desert plans will be published by late 2000. The Southeast Colorado River Basin Plan discusses the water-related resources and the problems, needs, issues and alternatives for conservation and development measures. Final selection of alternatives will rest with the local decision makers.

This plan is based on information now available, but it can be re-evaluated and revised to reflect changing circumstances. Successful planning needs the active participation of all concerned individuals and entities and their responses to the issues at hand. In addition, coordination at all levels of government improves the quality of planning. Common acceptance of resource conservation and development goals enhances the likelihood of reaching these objectives. However, individuals or small groups are often able to bring about progress where centralization can stifle innovation. This basin plan is intended to help bring about greater coordination between those involved to assure the needs and demands of the local people are met.

The Southeast Colorado River Basin is not a single river basin but is a collection of smaller basins draining primarily to the Dolores, Green, San Juan and Colorado rivers. All of these drainages ultimately end up in Lake Powell.

Most of the easily developable water in the basin is now in use. There is, however, additional water that can be developed. One of the challenges facing the residents of this basin is to find the most economical way to develop the available water.



Colorado River


ACKNOWLEDGMENT


The Board of Water Resources gratefully acknowledges the dedicated efforts of the State Water Plan Steering Committee and Coordinating Committee in preparing the *Southeast Colorado River Basin Plan*. This work was spearheaded by the planning staff in the Division of Water Resources with valuable assistance from individual coordinating committee members and their associates representing state agencies with water-related missions. Their high standards of


professionalism and dedication to improving Utah's natural resources were essential.

We appreciate the input and assistance of representatives of state and federal cooperating entities, the statewide advisory group and the local basin planning advisory group who expressed opinions and provided expertise from a broad spectrum of Utah's population. Representatives of many local entities and groups provided much needed assistance at the "grass-roots" level.

We extend thanks to those who attended meetings and provided written and oral comments. In endorsing this plan, we reserve the right to consider local water projects on their own merits. This plan is an important guide for water development and conservation in the Southeast Colorado River Basin. ☐

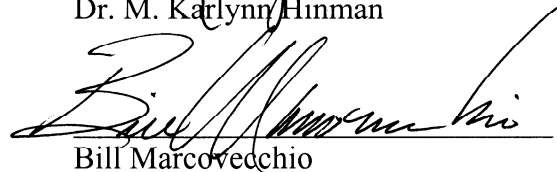

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